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Mycological Bulletin

No. 52

W. A. Kellerman, Ph. D., Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio, February 15, 1906.

Our Illustrations.—The Boletus Americanus shown on this page needs little or no comment, but the outline illustrations on later pages require further explanation. That on the third page is an Aecidium much like the species shown on page 199; the figure on the last page shows a Smut; the Aecidium will be briefly explained below, and the Smut will be commented on in the next Number.

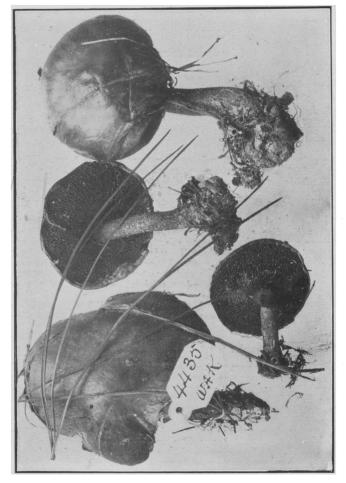


Fig. 162.—Bo-le'-tus A-mer-i-ca'-nus.—A yellow-cap slimy Boletus occuring in woods and open places. The specimens from which the photograph was made were sent by Supt. M. E. Hard, Chillicothe, Ohio, Oct. 30, 1905.

AE-CID'-I-UM, OR CLUSTER-CUPS.—As already explained this represents a stage, usually marked as "I," of a Black Rust. The second or so-called Red-rust is indicated by "II" and the third stage or Black-rust is numbered "III." The remarkable thing about an Aecidium is that its spores do not grow on the host on which they are produced but often on germinating enter a grass or sedge or some other host and there the stages "II" and "III" unfold. This was not at first known, but each Aecidium was supposed to be a complete plant and of course each received a scientific name. It was a German botanist, DeBary, who nearly a half century ago proved by culture in his laboratory that the aecidium on Barberry was the first stage of one of the Red and Black Rusts that grow on wheat. Later experiments have shown the connection of many of our common Yellow Cluster-Cups with Red and Black Rusts on various hosts—yet the life cycle of very many of our common species remain to be worked out.

"QUOTATION PAGE."

(Continued from page 202)

it could be predicted with certainty that the resulting fungus would be small. Very immature eggs ($\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ size) were often separated from their mycelial connections and taken into the greenhouse. These often decayed. A good share of them, however, developed after several days producing very small specimens. This indicates that food and moisture, together with the habit of growing singly or in clusters are important factors in determining size.

The volvae varied in size from 5.5×6 cm. to 2.4×3 cm. Where the eggs were in large groups they were often flattened against each other. A peculiar lobing was often caused in this way and also by foreign objects lying in contact with the eggs. Eggs lying free in sod were spherical and smooth. The color of the eggs varied from white to pink or dirty brown.

The size and shape of the pileus was as variable as the other characteristics. the taller plants in general had the larger pilei. The shape varied from a broadly campanulate pileus, 2.7 cm. high by 3.7 wide at the lower margin in No. 16, to the tall conical pileus 4.2 cm. high by 2.6 in diameter at the base as in No 11. There is no correlation between the shape of the pileus and the size and structure of the other parts. Some very tall specimens had campanulate pilei while others had the conical form, the same was true of the small specimers. The outer surface was always conspicuously reticulated, the edge of the ridges being acute and toothed. The ridges always extended to the pore at the apex. The pits enclosed by the ridges were in general deeper midway between the apex and the margin of the pileus and often became elongated in the vertical direction near the margin. * * *

There is no other part of the whole plant that shows as great variation in both size and structure as does the veil. The veil of a given specimen may vary with the age of the specimen when collected, or with the surrounding conditions. It was often observed that the veil expanded after the stipe had fully elongated. In other specimens the expansion of the veil was more rapid than the elongation of the stipe. In such cases the veil protruded from between the pileus and the volva as a large fold, which later straightens out and hangs free when the stipe is fully extended. When a specimen had been exposed to a dry atmosphere for a short time the veil became much shrunken. The measurements given in the table were taken from specimens gathered at about ten o'clock in the forenoon. Care was taken to measure the length of the veil when it was most fully expanded. While the outside conditions in which the plant is found, may modify the dimensions of the veil, there is no doubt that the actual amount of material which enters into it is as variable as any other feature of the plant." [A. H. Christman, Journal of Mycology].



Fig. 163.—Ae-cid'-i-um im-pa-ti-en'-tis.—The Yellow Cluster-cups of *Impatiens*, the Wild Touch-me-not, or Jewel-weed. At b is shown a ripe "cup" and at c one of its germinating spores.

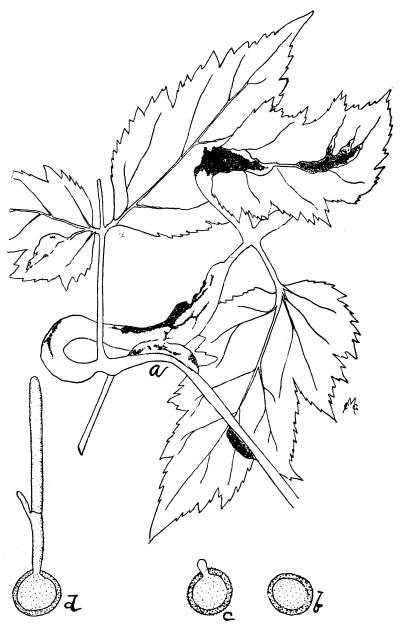


Fig. 164.—U-ro-cys'-tis car-ci-no'-des.—The Smut found on Cimicifuga, the Black Snake-root or Bugbane.

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